

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel) today released the following statement in response to two days of congressional testimony by General David Petraeus and Ambassador Ryan Crocker:

"Over the past two days we've heard more of the same on Iraq: limited success and indefinite deployment. What we haven't heard is a reason for the lack of regional diplomacy, the lack of a comprehensive plan to solve this problem. Even the president admits this war can't be won militarily, but he lacks the political courage to change our strategy.

"The simple fact is that things aren't getting better, they're getting worse. We're seeing plenty of small victories, but those point to nothing more than an indefinite occupation of Iraq. After four years of war and at the expense of thousands of lives, we have seen painfully little macro-progress.

"The president will soon return to Congress to ask for more funds for this war. It is my hope that we can use this opportunity to include conditions on the funds in order to bring our uniformed men and women home as soon as possible."

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